

Evening Telegraph

MONDAY, MAY 8, 1871.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

NOTWITHSTANDING the general expression of public opinion last fall in favor of a Constitutional Convention, empowered to revise and reconstruct the Constitution of Pennsylvania, the Legislature has shown no disposition to provide for such a reform.

As a sort of half-way measure, which is, however, insignificant in its scope, the Senate has passed a joint resolution providing for an amendment to the Constitution making the State Treasurer elective by the people instead of the Legislature, and the House Committee on Constitutional Reform proposes to do some additional tinkering to the fundamental law of the Commonwealth by increasing the number of Representatives or Assemblymen to 130—each county, no matter how small, to have one—and the balance to be divided equitably among the counties entitled to more than one.

GEARY.

GOVERNOR GEARY has had enough of the minor honors of the executive chair of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and he is beginning to develop designs upon the Presidency. He apparently proposes to run upon an independent workingmen's ticket, and to give both the Republican and Democratic organizations the cold shoulder.

demonstrated in the plainest manner possible that he is utterly unfitted by nature or education to perform the duties of any high office of trust or honor. He has alienated men of all parties, and it is too late for him to hope to regain his lost ground by flattery.

PLEASANTON'S PLEASANTRIES.

Our townsman, General Pleasanton, has made a discovery that will give Darwinism, and science generally, a boost such as it may not get over for a long time. On another page of this paper will be found some account of the General's experiments with blue light upon animals and plants.

It must be understood that we in no way dispute or disparage these results. We are proud that Philadelphia has given one more proof that she is the scientific leader of the country, and that Pennsylvania has so liberal and intelligent a body as her Agricultural Society, through which these important discoveries are certain to receive the attention they deserve.

If tried at Washington we should doubtless find the most ordinary men springing up, under the influence of these enlightening rays, into energetic legislators, and possibly—for who can limit the wonders of science?—into honest men. It would be an instructive sight, that of the Senate or the House, with its blue ceiling, and the consciousness ever present that our representatives were voluntarily developing themselves, and were on-listing the forces of nature to call out their sluggish faculties.

Then, to bring this matter down to the level of our daily lives, it is only necessary for a man to put a blue skylight in his house in order to note the most astonishing phenomena in himself and his progeny. The General has fully matured animals in twelve months, and as man can do more than any other creature, it follows that under the new treatment we

should have human beings of a year talking politics, joining trades unions, marrying, and in fact going the whole round of the treadmill we call life. There is no evading the logical conclusion of the General's argument if we once accept his seductive premises. Then this most rare nimbus acts not only upon the physical nature. As it induces with plants and flowers not only a greater quantity but a rarer quality of fruit and fragrance, so man under its influence may be expected to shoot into a moral stature little less than appalling to the degenerate sense of the present age.

THE MILITIA TAX.

Our ventilation of the militia tax swindle has had the good effect of inducing the individuals who have charge of the collection and distribution of the tax to make a statement of receipts and expenditures. This statement, which we find in the columns of one of our Sunday contemporaries, is, we presume, the best that the assessors and receivers of the tax are able to say for themselves; and if we accept it as correct, it only substantiates the general assertions made in THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The New York sensations of last week consisted of a somewhat detailed description of the process by which the railway magnates of that city victimize ill-fated stockholders, a disclosure of methods whereby panders to vice conduct their operations on a scale commensurate in infamy with the grandeur of the metropolis, and a touching picture of the universal interest excited by fears that the death of the wife of a shoulder-bitter, through "alcoholism," would postpone a prize-fight. This record is worthy of Fisk, Tweed, and Tammany, and if it is well followed up by a development of the movement recently commenced in that city to reorganize society on the basis established by the Commune in Paris, the glories of Gotham will shine forth with a lustre that will well-nigh become a self-consuming blaze.

Noank, Conn., boasts of a three-eyed cat, and inquires, "How is that for eye?" Rutherfordton, N. C., is to have an "Ivanhoe tournament and King John ball" soon. Yellow amber in large quantities is being found at various points on the Mexican coast.

BAILEY & CO. Jewelers, Chestnut & 12th Sts. Are now prepared to display their SPRING STYLES OF GOLD JEWELRY.

NOTICES. WANAMAKER & BROWN, PROPRIETORS OF OAK HALL, Philadelphia's Largest, Cheapest, Best, and Most POPULAR CLOTHING HOUSE.

HINTS FOR TO-DAY! Suit for the Boy At ROCKHILL & WILSON'S. Business Suits for Spring Wear At ROCKHILL & WILSON'S.

ROCKHILL & WILSON, 603 and 605 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA. HABILLEMENTS No. 324 CHESTNUT ST.

WESTON & BROTHER, TAILORS, S W. Corner NINTH and ARCH Sts., PHILADELPHIA. A full assortment now in store OF THE CHOICEST NOVELTIES OF THE SEASON FOR GENTLEMEN'S WEAR.

JAMES W. QUEEN & CO., 120 NW 1st St., No. 24 CHESTNUT Street, Phila. MICROSCOPES, TELESCOPES, THERMOMETERS, MATHEMATICAL, SURVEYING, PHILOSOPHICAL AND DRAWING INSTRUMENTS AT REDUCED PRICES.

PAPER HANGINGS, ETC. WALL DECORATIONS. Ninety Different Shades OF PLAIN TINTS, OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND DELICATE COLORS, SUITABLE TO TAKE THE PLACE EITHER OF PAINTED WALLS OR FRESCO.

BALBRIGGAN HOSIERY. SUMMER IMPORTATION NOW OPEN. SHARPLESS & SON, 818 ARCH ST., PHILADELPHIA. WATCHES, JEWELRY, ETC. HENRY HARPER, No. 722 CHESTNUT Street.

Wm. Mencke & Brother, No. 804 ARCH St. JUST RECEIVED, A NEW IMPORTATION OF Berlin Worsted Embroideries. SLIPPERS 50 cents and upwards; CUSHIONS, STRIPES, ELEGANT BEAD SCREENS, TOWEL RACKS, ETC. ETC.

Wm. Mencke & Brother, No. 804 ARCH Street, PHILADELPHIA. PIANOS. STEINWAY & SONS' GRAND SQUARE AND UPRIGHT PIANOS. Special attention is called to their PATENT UPRIGHT PIANOS.

DREXEL & CO., No. 34 SOUTH THIRD STREET, PHILADELPHIA. STOCKS, LOANS, ETC. BOUGHT AND SOLD AT THE BOARD OF BROKERS, BY GEORGE J. BOYD, No. 18 S. THIRD Street. PRINTING. THEO. LEONHARDT & CO., Engraving and Steam Lithographic PRINTING ROOMS, Nos. 612 and 614 CHESTNUT Street.